

TESTIMONY OF MARVIN BROWN

Governor's Proposed FY 23 Budget Adjustments H.B. No. 5037 (COMM) AN ACT ADJUSTING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2023

Increase funding for Independent Living Centers by \$1M annually

Hello please allow me to Introduce myself. I was born Marvin Brown. I'm a Transgender woman named Whitney Brown. Independence Northwest, one of CT's 5 independent living centers, has helped me in so many ways to live in a home without fear of discrimination or eviction. Without this Program I would have been homeless. My living situation is stable due to independent living centers helping me to live Independently. So, I write to you to tell you how important this program is to me and so many others, and that the need for more funding is essential. Due to this program, I am able to pay for any copays and medications, utilities and household supplies. Without this program I would not have enough money to do any of those things. So I'm asking, please Increase the funding in the upcoming budget so that many of us can live without the fear of being homeless. The need for help for so many of us is real especially during the times of Covid. With so many things that have been going up from the price of food to our Rent, Utilities and personal needs. I thank you for taking time to read my statement.

Whitney Brown

Whitney Brown
Waterbury, CT